

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/527,341

Examiner

Hien D. Vu

Applicant(s)

CASSES ET AL.

Art Unit

2833

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication on 9/13/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-5 and 7-14.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.


**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 9/13/07.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

  
**HIEN VU**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Mark Harrington on 9/13/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently amended) The sealing system according to claim 11, further characterized in that the single-unit seal has a first section provided with sealing lips pressing on the walls of the through-hole.
3. (Currently amended) The sealing system according to claim 11, further characterized in that the single-unit seal has a smooth second section.
4. (Previously presented) The sealing system according to claim 3, further characterized in that the second section of the single-unit seal is adapted to be partially inserted into the connection terminal.
5. (Currently amended) The sealing system according to claim 11, further characterized in that the through-holes of the multi-terminal seal each have a rear part having a section which is adapted to at least partially conform to a larger size connection wire which can be used with the electrical connector without the single-unit seal.
6. (Cancelled)

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7. (Previously presented) The sealing system according to claim 5, further characterized in that front part of the through-holes is smooth.

8. (Currently amended) The sealing system according to claim 11, further characterized in that the multi-terminal seal comprises two plates positioned on top of one another, one of these plates comprising the front part of the through-holes and the other plate comprising the rear part of the through-holes.

9. (Currently amended) The sealing system according to claim 11, further characterized in that the multi-terminal seal is of an elastic and impermeable material.

10. (Currently amended) An electrical connector comprising several connection terminals and electrical connection wires, wherein the electrical connector comprises the sealing system according to claim 11.

11. (Currently amended) A multi-terminal electrical connector sealing system comprising:

a plastic body in which is housed:

a multi-terminal seal, wherein the multi-terminal seal comprises a flexible material having a plurality of through-holes that pass completely through the multi-terminal seal, wherein at least one of the through-holes is sized and shaped to receive an electric connection wire and at least a portion of an electrical terminal in which the wire is crimped, wherein a rear part of the at least one through-hole has sealing lips sized and shaped to press on the connection wire; and

at least one single-unit seal having a general tubular shape, wherein the single-unit seal is sized and shaped to surround a portion of the connection wire, and wherein the single-unit seal is sized and shaped to be located at least partially in one of the through-holes of the multi-terminal seal,

wherein the at least one through-hole of the multi-terminal seal has a front part having a section which is sized and shaped to at least partially receive the single-unit seal.

12. (Currently amended) An electrical connector comprising:

a housing;

at least one electrical terminal connected to the housing;

a multi-terminal seal in the housing having a plurality of through-holes receiving electrical wires having electrical terminals thereon; and

at least one single-unit seal having a general tubular shape, wherein the single-unit seal at least partially surrounds one of the connection wires, wherein the single-unit seal is located partially in one of the through-holes of the multi-terminal seal, and wherein the through-holes of the multi-terminal seal each have a front part having a section which partially receives the single-unit seal, wherein a rear part of the through-holes each has sealing lips pressing on the connection wire.

13. (Currently amended) An electrical connector subassembly comprising:

a housing having electrical terminal receiving areas; and

a multi-terminal seal connected to the housing, wherein the multi-terminal seal comprises a plurality of through-holes receiving electrical wires having electrical terminals connected thereto, wherein the through-holes each comprise a front section and a rear section,

wherein the rear sections each partially receive a first one of the electrical wires having a first larger size, wherein the rear parts of the through-holes each has sealing lips pressing on the wire,

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wherein the front sections each receive a single-unit seal having a tubular shape which are inserted into the front section for sealing with a second electrical wire having a second smaller size, and

wherein the front sections each partially receive a single-unit seal.

14. (Previously presented) An electrical connector subassembly as in claim 13 further comprising at least one single-unit seal located in at least one of the front sections of the multi-terminal seal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hien D. Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-2016.

The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

HV  
9/13/07



**HIE NVU**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**